



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2439

cosmetology; regulation

Sponsors: Representatives Gowan, Cardenas, Stevens, et al.

DPA Committee on Commerce

DPA Caucus and COW

X As Transmitted to the Governor

OVERVIEW

HB 2439 changes the Board of Cosmetology (ABOC) applicant age requirements and explains the qualifications of postsecondary education institutions.

HISTORY

ABOC was established by Laws 1935, Chapter 5, to regulate the practice of cosmetology and ensure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Arizona through education and enforcement of the Board's rules. Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 32-502 states ABOC is responsible for licensing aestheticians, nail technicians, cosmetologists, instructors, salons and schools; implements safety and sanitation regulations; conducts routine inspections of salons and schools; and investigates and resolves complaints filed against licensees. The seven member governor appointed ABOC consists of five industry professionals, one educator unaffiliated with the cosmetology industry and one public member unaffiliated with the cosmetology industry.

On November 6, 2013 the Senate Commerce, Energy and Military and the House of Representatives Commerce Committee of Reference (COR) held a sunset hearing. Current law requires licensure applicants to have two years of high school education or be at least 23 years of age. The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) recommended that ABOC change this age requirement to 16 to 21 years of age. Additionally, A.R.S. § 32-515 mandates students who wish to be reexamined apply with the Board and the company administering the exam. The OAG proposed that ABOC require students apply to only one establishment.

PROVISIONS

- Changes licensure requirements for applicants to have at least two years of high school education and be at least 18 years of age, rather than 23 years of age.
- Specifies that a recognized postsecondary education institution may admit anyone with a high school diploma or equivalent or who is beyond the age of compulsory education.
- Directs reexamination applicants to apply through the Board or a Board selected organization
- Requires a school to be recognized as a postsecondary education institution if:
 - The school admits only individuals who have earned a high school diploma or equivalent or individuals who meet the minimum age requirements.
 - The school is licensed by the Board to offer training programs beyond postsecondary level.
- Adds cosmetologists to the aesthetician statutes.
- Makes technical and conforming changes.